

**CITY OF GAHANNA
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – June 4, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Eric Miller called the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board to order on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 7pm at Gahanna City Hall.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Diane Cantrell– arrived at 7:02pm
Cynthia Franzmann
Windy McKenna – arrived at 7:09pm
Luke Messinger
Eric Miller
Laurel Naegele
Vincent Tremante

In attendance from the City were Tony Collins, Director and Troy Euton, Deputy Director, Department of Parks & Recreation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Tremante made a **MOTION** to approve the May 7, 2008 meeting minutes; seconded by Naegele. **On roll call vote:** Messinger, Yes, Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes, Tremante, Yes, and Franzmann, Yes. **The motion carried 5-0.**

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Revised agenda distributed.

HEARING OF VISITORS

Casey Cannon, 950 Venetian Way, Gahanna, OH, 43230; Chair of the Dog Park Advisory Committee shared that the Committee members want a water feature for the dogs. The committee feels they were promised a water feature either through creek access or another type of water feature. In the opinion of the committee the most cost effective way is to allow creek access. The committee understands the recommendation from the Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC) and creek access.

Lynne Vermillion, 647 Ridenour Road, Gahanna, OH, 43230; Secretary of the Dog Park Advisory Committee shared that the dog park is very popular; people like the new location and the walking trail through the park. Vermillion stated in earlier discussions one of the advantages of moving the dog park to Pizzurro Park was the creek access for the dogs. At a City Council meeting in September of 2007, \$65,000 was requested for the move to provide fencing, creek access and walking trails. The committee understands the environmental concerns of the NRAC regarding the dogs turning up the mud and creating problems downstream. There are children, fisherman, and paddle boats in the creek turning up the mud; do not blame the dogs as the sole mud churners; all are potential hazards. There are compromises that can be made until a permanent water feature can be created.

OLD BUSINESS:

Service to the Community Awards

Miller reviewed the nominations with the Board. The Board made the following recommendations for the 2008 Service to the Community Awards:

Business: Stonehenge
 Recreation Friend: Laurie Jadwin
 Senior: Dave & Bev Metcalf
 Youth Group: Brownie Troop 354
 Civic Organization: Rosemary Group
 Lifetime Achievement: Roland & Edie Hall

Franzmann made a **MOTION** to approve the recommendations for the 2008 Service to the Community Awards; seconded by Cantrell. **On roll call vote:** Naegele, Yes, Tremante, Yes, Cantrell, Yes, Franzmann, Yes, Messinger, Yes, and Miller, Yes. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Military Discount

The Board discussed several options for active duty military discounts. The Board made the following recommendations to Council for the approval of offering Military discounts (chart A):

- Current Active Duty Military, Guard and Reserve, Gahanna residents only will receive a 20% discount off of the membership rates for the Gahanna Municipal Golf Course and Hunters Ridge Pool.
- Daily Green fees will be \$8 per person
- Daily Pool pass will be \$8 per person

Franzmann made a **MOTION** to approve the recommendation of a Military discount of 20% to Current Active Duty Military, Guard and Reserve, for Gahanna residents only on memberships and a discount on daily fees; seconded by Messinger. **On roll call vote:** Tremante, Yes, Cantrell, Yes, Franzmann, Yes, McKenna, Yes, Messinger, Yes, Miller, Yes, and Naegele, Yes. **The motion carried 7-0.**

CHART A

Golf Course

2008 Membership Rates

	Resident
Adult	\$357
Couple	\$510
Junior(Under 18)	\$255
Midday Membership*	\$255

Daily Green Fees		
Adult		\$10

2008 Active Duty Military, Guard and Reserves - Membership Rates

	Resident
A. Adult	\$285.60
B. Couple	\$408
C. Junior(Under 18)	\$204
F. Midday Membership*	\$204

Daily Green Fees		
Military Rate		\$8

Hunters Ridge Pool

2008 Membership Rates

Single Member (ages 11+)	\$180
Family Membership	\$290
Family of 2/Couple	\$255

Daily Pass	Before 5pm \$10	After 5pm \$8
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2008 Active Duty Military, Guard and Reserves - Membership Rates

Single Member (ages 11+)	\$144
Family Membership	\$232
Family of 2/Couple	\$204

Daily Pass	Military rate all day	\$8
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NEW BUSINESS:

Progress Report

Collins shared the department's mid-year report and some of the work completed by each division. Staff has been working on the 2009 budget and the five-year Capital Plan for Council. The capital budget is based from the Master Plan. The staff would like the Board's input regarding the five year Capital Plan, which are the big projects for the department. Input is needed to change the priority order or remove items from the list. Collins explained there is not enough money in the budget and not enough staff to accomplish all projects and programs. In 2008 the Department had the smallest capital budget ever.

Staff is continuing to work on the softball field complex issues. For the 2008 season the Jr. League Sports softball participants will be using the five fields at Middle School West. Staff is working with the schools on a solution for fields and restrooms.

Collins requested input on what the board envisions in the next five years for the community/and what they are hearing from residents. Board members discussed the following priorities: Community Center, trails and baseball/softball complex/restrooms.

Collins stated several things came up in 2008 that were not in the Master Plan or the 2008 budget, that if not addressed would have been a detriment to the community; some of which were the dog park, Skate Park, fence at Bryn Mawr, Rice Ave./Foxwood pond, Gahanna Swim Club.

Dog Park Creek Access

Tremante stated that the Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC) did an inventory of Pizzurro Park and creek access for the dogs. The inventory and initial assessment looked at the width of the riparian area, the condition of the man-made path to the creek which has no vegetation, and the creek bank, which is in poor condition. It was thought if there was a lot of access going in and out and lots of water coming in and out, the bank and narrow riparian area would continue to deteriorate. The recommendation from NRAC was no access to the creek or conditional access at a single point that would be observed and evaluated annually. If there was continued degradation of the bank and riparian area then the access would be removed. Tremante stated DPAC is very interested in having a water feature at the dog park.

After some discussion the following recommendations were made:

- The DPAC was tasked to research and obtain proposals for a water feature at the dog park and bring the information back to the Parks Board at a later date.
- The Board made a recommendation of a single entry/exit point for dog park users on a conditional basis.
- The access point will be stabilized.
- At the end of the season have a company monitor the water quality, bank and riparian area.
- Educational signage needs to be installed at the entrance point.

Tremante made a **MOTION** to approve the recommendation of conditional access at a single entry/exit point to be located by the bench on a conditional basis; if degradation is apparent, then the access will be re-evaluated; seconded by Messinger. **On roll call vote:** Franzmann, Yes, McKenna, Yes, Messinger, Yes, Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes, Tremante, Yes, and Cantrell, Yes. **The motion carried 7-0.**

CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Distributed to the Board

COMMITTEE REPORTS

School Board Report

McKenna said in regards to a previous question about the school buses using bio-diesel fuel, the schools use the same fuel complex as the city and both use a low sulfur fuel.

The schools are talking with the owner of the old Kroger building and about using the green concept in those buildings.

Bikeway Advisory Committee (BAC)

Naegele stated that the BAC public meeting had a good turn out and a lot of residents are interested in joining. BAC is working on getting more structured and nominated officers and established the size of the committee at their last meeting. A thank you letter will be sent to the residents who attended the meeting. A letter to the editor was submitted to both community papers regarding the meeting. Construction on the trail from the Gahanna Swim Club to the Price Road/270 section will begin soon. Safe Routes to School Grant was signed by the Mayor and returned to ODOT; once the response is received the year timeline to complete the project will begin.

Community Improvement Corporation (C.I.C.)

Cantrell stated that CIC and CVB each donated \$32,500 to the Creekside opening. Grants were given to the Gahanna Historical Society for their Friday night events and for the High School sports renovations. CIC will begin strategic planning to help structure both organizations and future projects. City Council passed an ordinance that re-designated CIC.

Dog Park Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Tremante said the next DPAC meeting is on June 12, 2008 at 5:30pm at City Hall.

Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC)

Tremante stated the next inventory assessment will be on June 14, 2008 at 8am at Friendship Park.

Veterans Memorial Committee

McKenna said the Memorial Day Dedication program was very nice and well attended.

Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation

Miller stated the next meeting will be scheduled soon.

POLL MEMBERS FOR COMMENT:

Tremante shared he has received positive feedback from his neighbors regarding a community center. The rain gardens will be completed soon at Friendship Park. The Gahanna Historical Society will hold Friday night events prior to Music in the Park. They will offer badminton; croquet and other games open for the public.

Miller shared he has received a lot of good comments from users of the Golf Course regarding the great shape of the greens, flowers, and grounds.

Collins shared that almost every weekend this summer there is an event going on. Every Friday is Music in the Park at Friendship Park, three Saturdays a month Concerts on the Creek and the last Saturday of each month is Classics on the Creek (Movies).

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Parks & Recreation Board at this time, Cantrell made a **MOTION** to adjourn.

The Parks & Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Crossmock, Administrative Assistant

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2008

Eric Miller, Chair